
By: **Senator Harris**

Introduced and read first time: February 20, 2004

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Campaign Finance - Contributions by Credit Card - Limitation**

3 FOR the purpose of altering a certain limitation on the amount of contributions that
4 may be made by credit card to candidates and political committees; and
5 generally relating to campaign contributions by credit card.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Election Law
8 Section 13-226
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2003 Volume and 2003 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article - Election Law**

14 13-226.

15 (a) The limits on contributions in this section do not apply to:

16 (1) a contribution to a ballot issue committee; or

17 (2) those contributions defined as transfers.

18 (b) Subject to subsection (d) of this section, a person may not, either directly or
19 indirectly, in an election cycle make:

20 (1) aggregate contributions in excess of:

21 (i) \$4,000 to any one campaign finance entity; or

22 (ii) \$10,000 to all campaign finance entities; or

23 (2) a contribution of money in excess of \$100 except by check OR CREDIT
24 CARD.

1 (c) A person may not make a contribution by credit card greater than [\$100]
2 \$1,000 per transaction.

3 (d) (1) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, a central committee of
4 a political party may make aggregate in-kind contributions during an election cycle
5 that are not in excess of:

6 (i) for a State central committee, \$1 for every two registered voters
7 in the State; and

8 (ii) for a local central committee, \$1 for every two registered voters
9 in the county.

10 (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1) of this subsection, the number of
11 registered voters is determined, regardless of party affiliation, as of the first day of
12 the election cycle.

13 (e) The limit on contributions to the campaign finance entity of a candidate
14 applies regardless of the number of offices sought by the candidate or campaign
15 finance entities formed to support the candidate.

16 (f) Contributions by a corporation and any wholly-owned subsidiary of the
17 corporation, or by two or more corporations owned by the same stockholders, shall be
18 considered as being made by one contributor.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
20 October 1, 2004.